

Washington's Emergency Rules for State Ballast Water Management
KEY COMPONENTS OF THE REGULATIONS (effective August 14, 2007)

WAC 220-77-0900C -- Ballast water management and control – reporting and sampling requirements

- Vessels must still file a Ballast Water Reporting Form at least 24 hours prior to entering Washington waters.
- Changes to where and how to file a Ballast Water Reporting Form:
 - Vessels entering any Washington State ports may file their ballast water reporting form electronically (preferred) or by fax with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) – ballastwater@dfw.wa.gov, 360-902-2845; or
 - Vessels bound for Puget Sound or coastal ports may still file with the Marine Exchange of Puget Sound – waballast@aol.com, 206-443-3939; or
 - Vessels bound for Washington Ports on the Columbia River may still file with the Merchant Exchange of Portland – marine.room@pdxmex.com, 503-295-3660
- Changes to reporting for vessels not discharging in Washington waters:
 - Vessel owners or operators may send a signed form letter, as provided by WDFW, at least 30 days prior to entering WA waters to the ANS coordinator by email (ballastwater@dfw.wa.gov), fax (360-902-2845) or U.S. mail; or
 - Vessels may still file a ballast water report 24 hours prior to entering Washington waters with “Not discharging” written in the ballast water history section.
- WDFW may still take samples of ballast water and examine ballast water management records during a vessel's scheduled stay in port.
- New safety exemption filing, review, and fee assessment process:
 - Vessels claiming a safety exemption must write the words “Safety exemption” on the ballast water reporting form when asked why no ballast treatment was conducted, and state the cause as either “Adverse Weather,” “Vessel design limitation,” “Equipment failure,” or “Extraordinary condition.”
 - The WDFW will examine safety exemption claims and will assess an administrative safety exemption fee of \$500 or more.
- New civil penalty assessment process:
 - WDFW may impose civil penalties for violation of the requirements in this section up to \$27,500 a day.

More information available at - <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/ballast/ballast.htm>